

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 ICA-11 L-03 H-01
DOE-15 SOE-02 INT-05 OES-07 /120 W
-----061544 181752Z /42

R 181655Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6081
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 07533

USEEC

PASS COMMERCE FOR SECRETARY KREPS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, EEC
SUBJECT: COMMISSION MEMCON ON JENKINS MEETING WITH
SECRETARY KREPS

REF: USBERLIN 0867

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MEMCON PREPARED BY JENKINS' CHEF
DE CABINET TICKELL WHO PARTICIPATED IN PRESIDENT JENKINS'
MEETING WITH SECRETARY KREPS IN BERLIN APRIL 13, TO
SUPPLEMENT REPORT FORWARDED REFTEL. TICKELL TOLD DCM
THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD U.S. PRESS PLAY OF SECRETARY'S
PRESS CONFERENCE IN BERLIN HAD STRESSED SECRETARY'S VIEW
THAT MEASURES DISCUSSED AT EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR INCREASED
EUROPEAN MONETARY COOPERATION AND JENKINS' IDEAS ON EMU
SEEMED TO BE ANTI-AMERICAN. WE SAID WE HAD NO REASON TO
THINK THEY WERE ANTI-AMERICAN AND ASSUMED THERE WAS SOME
MISUNDERSTANDING.

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2. BEGIN TEXT

MR. JENKINS AND MRS. KREPS MET AT THE SENATE GUEST
HOUSE ON THURSDAY 13 APRIL AT 16.30 HOURS. WITH MRS.
KREPS WERE MR. F. WEIL (ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE)
AND THREE OTHERS. MR. EBERMANN AND I WERE WITH MR.

JENKINS.

MRS. KREPS ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS ANYTHING MR. JENKINS COULD TELL HER ABOUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED BETWEEN THE NINE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT AT COPENHAGEN. MR. JENKINS GAVE A GENERAL ACCOUNT OF THE MEETING. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM MRS. KREPS, HE SAID THAT THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT HAD EVENTUALLY AGREED TO SET THEMSELVES THE TARGET OF REACHING A 4.5 PERCENT GROWTH RATE BY THE END OF JUNE 1979. MRS. KREPS SEEMED DOUBTFUL IF THIS TARGET WAS GENUINE. MR. JENKINS SAID THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN A FORMAL CONCLUSION OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BUT HAD BEEN MUCH DISCUSSED AND EVENTUALLY LEFT AS ONE OF THE POINTS WHICH THE DANISH CHAIRMAN COULD MAKE TO THE PRESS.

THERE WAS A BRIEF DISCUSSION ON ENERGY MATTERS. MR. JENKINS EXPRESSED EUROPEAN ANXIETIES ABOUT THE BLOCKING OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S ENERGY LEGISLATION IN CONGRESS. HE EXPLAINED THE DEGREE OF EUROPEAN DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED OIL, AND VULNERABILITY TO CHANGES IN PRICE AND SUPPLY. MRS. KREPS SAID THAT SHE THOUGHT THAT THERE WAS PROGRESS IN WASHINGTON AT LAST. PRESIDENT CARTER HAD MADE IT CLEAR IN HIS ADDRESS ON 11 APRIL THAT IF THERE WERE NO LEGISLATION HE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE THE NECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION TO LIMIT IMPORTS.

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MRS. KREPS ASKED ABOUT MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS IN COPENHAGEN. SHE SEEMED TO THINK THAT WHAT MIGHT BE UNDER DISCUSSION MIGHT HAVE AN ANTI-AMERICAN CHARACTER. MR. JENKINS SAID THAT THIS WAS NOT SO. THE PROBLEM OF THE US DOLLAR WAS NOT OVER ITS ROLE AS THE US TRADING CURRENCY BUT OVER ITS ROLE AS A DEPRECIATING MEDIUM OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE. THE DECLINE OF THE DOLLAR HAD PROFOUND INTERNAL EFFECTS ON OTHER ECONOMIES, AND IT WAS NATURAL THAT THE EUROPEANS WERE MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT IT, AND CONSIDERING WHAT ACTION TO TAKE.

THERE WAS ALSO A BRIEF EXCHANGE ABOUT THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. MR. JENKINS ASKED WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES MRS. KREPS HAD IN THIS RESPECT. MR. WEIL REPLIED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE HAD TO DO A LOT OF THE BACKGROUND BRIEFING, BUT THE ACTUAL NEGOTIATING WAS OF COURSE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MR. STRAUSS. HE SAID THAT NO-ONE COULD PRETEND THAT THE PRESENT WAS A GOOD TIME FOR THE MTNS, BUT AS WE WERE ENGAGED IN THEM IT WAS ALL THE MORE NECESSARY FOR US TO SUCCEED. MR. JENKINS WARMLY AGREED. HE SAID THAT THE JULY TARGET

FOR SETTLING THE MAJOR ISSUES WAS OPTIMISTIC BUT
REALISTIC. ALTHOUGH THERE WERE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE
COMMUNITY AND THE UNITED STATES, EACH WAS WELL WITHIN
HAILING DISTANCE OF THE OTHER.

AS WE LEFT THE ROOM, MRS. KREPS ASKED IF MR. JENKINS
HAD ANY OBJECTION TO HER MENTIONING THE MEETING AT HER
PRESS CONFERENCE THE FOLLOWING DAY. MR. JENKINS SAID
HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO HER REFERRING TO IT, BUT HE WOULD
PREFER THE SUBJECT MATTER TO REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL. MRS.
KREPS AGREED.

END TEXT.

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ACTION EUR-12

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SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 ICA-11 L-03 H-01
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-----061405 181751Z /42

R 181655Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6082
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 07533

USEEC

PASS COMMERCE FOR SECRETARY KREPS

3. ACTION REQUESTED: SUMMARY OF SECRETARY'S REMARKS
AT PRESS CONFERENCE AND ANY SIGNIFICANT STORIES OF IT
IN U.S. PRESS. HINTON

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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